

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 ISLAMA 08371 161442Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----053083 161515Z /44
R 161107Z AUG 77
FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3393
INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

S E C R E T ISLAMABAD 8371

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PK, US, FR, MNUC, TECH
SUBJECT: PAKISTAN REPROCESSING PLANT

REF: A. ISLAMABAD 7765; B. ISLAMABAD 8290

1. DURING INITIAL CALL 15 AUG BY USUN AMB WELLS AND MR. PETREE IN CONNECTION WITH UN CONSULTATIONS, DE FACTO FONMIN AGHA SHAHI AGAIN REHEARSED GOP POSITION ON REPROCESSING PLANT.

2. HE OPENED WITH GOP VIEWS OF MIDDLE EAST ISSUES, PROCEEDED TO SOUTHERN AFRICA, THEN TOOK UP DISARMAMENT AND COMPREHENSIVE TEST BAN, WINDING UP WITH NONPROLIFERATION.

3. HE REPEATED FIRM STAND ON REPROCESSING PLANT IN TERMS SIMILAR TO EARLIER CONVERSATIONS REPORTED REFTELS. THE FOLLOWING POINTS WERE NOTEWORTHY:

A. THERE IS NO WAY FOR GOP TO BACK OFF OF CONTRACT. BHUTTO'S PARTY IS FULLY COMMITTED, AND IF OPPOSITION PNA PARTY WINS OCTOBER ELECTION IT ALSO WILL NOT CANCEL, PARTICULARLY IF BHUTTO EMERGES IN ROLE OF POLITICAL OPPOSITION. GOP "WILL INSIST" THAT FRENCH PROCEED WITH
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CONTRACT OBLIGATIONS.

B. GOP IS "ALREADY FEELING THE PINCH" OF DELAYS IN SIGNATURE OF PLANNED USAID LOANS AND GRANTS.

C. USG SHOULD CONSIDER WHETHER FURTHER PRESSURES WILL BE COUNTER-PRODUCTIVE. "CLASSICALLY, WHEN PRESSURES

ARE USED BY ONE SUPERPOWER THEY TEND TO PUSH THE RECIPIENT IN THE DIRECTION OF THE OTHER SUPERPOWER." (HOWEVER, EARLIER IN HIS LECTURE HE HAD MADE CLEAR GOP SCEPTICISM ABOUT SOVIET MOTIVES IN DISCUSSION OF: MIDDLE EAST POLICY; ON SOUTHERN AFRICA WHERE SOVIETS MIGHT CHOOSE ADVENTURIST MILITARY ACTION; AND DISARMAMENT ON WHICH HE PRAISED PRESIDENT CARTER'S INITIATIVE TOWARD REDUCTION OF NUCLEAR ARSENALS AND SAID GOP HAD URGED SOVS NOT TO REJECT IT OUT OF HAND, BUT TO CONTINUE DIALOGUE ON REDUCTIONS.)

4. AMB HUMMEL MADE APPROPRIATE REJOINDERS ON PARTS OF HIS PRESENTATION ON REPROCESSING PLANT AND ASKED IF WE COULD EXPECT REPLY TO OUR QUERY ON SCHEDULE OF PLANNED DELIVERIES OF TECHNOLOGY BY FRENCH. AGHA SHAHI INDICATED HE FELT NO PURPOSE WOULD BE SERVED BY GIVING USG DETAILS OF DELIVERY SCHEDULE.

5. FRENCH EMBASSY CONFIRMS AGHA SHAHI WILL VISIT PARIS SEPT 8 FOR REPROCESSING DISCUSSIONS WITH FRENCH. HUMMEL

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NNN

Message Attributes

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